

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 32 with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to a ~~fifth-sixth~~ aspect of the present invention there is provided a computer program comprising program instructions for causing a computer to perform the method as defined in the ~~second-third~~ aspect of the invention.

Please replace the paragraph at page 20, line 19 with the following rewritten paragraph:

With reference to Figure 4, the components of the agent 102, 104, 106 and ~~108110~~ are as described in Figure 1. First the module builds an ACL message with module@agent recipient and content 402. The module calls the IMCL with a specific label (such as "talk2agent") and the ACL message 404. IMCL resolves talk2agent label call to a specific core method (such as "TalkToAgent") 406. The IMCL calls core's TalkToAgent method with the ACL message 408. core.TalkToAgent resolves agent name to transport specific identifier 410. Transport calls are made to deliver the message 412. Finally the message is transported 414.

Please replace the paragraph at page 20, line 32 with the following rewritten paragraph:

With reference to Figure 5, components of the agent 102, 104, 106 and ~~108110~~ are as described in Figure 1. The incoming message 502 corresponding to the outgoing message 414 of Figure 4 is transported into the agent. The message arrives in the core from the transport layer 504. The core makes a call 508 to the module's message handler 510, from where the module processes the message. For the receipt of ACL messages, the core implements a queue mechanism. Individual messages should be addressed to "module@agent", thus specifying not only the agent to which the message is addressed, but also the specific module within that agent. (Messages that are underspecified and do not indicate a recipient module are handled separately by the core). The core queues these messages, and passes them to individual modules according to the message address, when appropriate reprocessing resources become available.